ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES Resolution in Support for Legislative Funding for Fisheries Research

2007-251-FB

WHEREAS, the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game are delegated direct responsibility from the state legislature to allocate the fisheries and wildlife resources of the state; and

WHEREAS, the salmon and other fish of Alaska support subsistence, personal use, recreational, and commercial fisheries that are economically, socially, and culturally important; and

WHEREAS, it is important to ensure the health of these fish stocks to maintain sustained yields; and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain adequate sustained yields, habitat must be kept intact and productive, wild stocks must be protected, genetic and biological diversity must be assured, and spawning escapements need to be met; and

WHEREAS, professional management of Alaska's wildlife is essential to the perpetuation and wise use of our wildlife resources; and

WHEREAS, professional wildlife management in Alaska demands an adequate budget for personnel, annual population surveys, collection and analysis of harvest information, and long-term research essential to improving management; and

WHEREAS, there are inadequate funds devoted to research;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Board of Fisheries strongly urges the legislature and governor to secure greater research funds for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Fisheries strongly encourages and recommends to the University of Alaska to increase its marine and fresh waters fisheries research and increase cooperative research activities and focuses with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

ADOPTED this 5 day of February, 2007

Mel Morris, Chair

Alaska Board of Fisheries

Vote: <u>6 / 0</u> (Andrews absent)